Oct. 15/90

My Dear Mrs. James,

You did not know what you asked yesterday in taking the three bound volumes of Mosses. Before acquiring up the box this morning I made an examination of them and I find that they contain the cream of the whole collection, in fact what gives to the collection its principal value. In these volumes are over 1400 (1413) specimens, and among them are rare specimens that I have looked for in vain where I thought that they ought to be & have wondered that they were not to be found. Evidently Mrs. James had gathered into these books all of his most valued specimens, and however much it is to be regretted I cannot let them go. I would rather

that you should take all the risk of the material.

I am exceedingly sorry to disappoint you in this way, and if any substitute can be ~~suggested~~ suggested of less serious value I shall be very glad to make it.

With kindest regards I remain

Yours truly,

J. V. T.